



Decision Making Constructs in a Distributed Environment (DCODE)

Dr. Robert A. Fleming SPAWAR Systems Center, San Diego

bobfleming@navy.mil

bobfleming@gmail.com *

619.553.3628

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Report Documentation Page

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Organization:



- (1) Objectives
 - DCODE Concepts/Issues
- (2) Experiments
 - NPG School
 - Colorado State
- (3) Expected Final Product
- (4) Demos/Validations
 - Camtasia AVIs
 - Cortex
 - HSI Lab
- (5) Software Development
- (6) Publications
- (7) Lessons Learned



(1) Objectives



- Overall Objective: the development of computer-based methods for obviating the problems of the exchange, sharing and integration of uniquely held information among decision participants in a distributed, asynchronous collaborative team environment.
 - The project proposes an integration of EWall technologies with Knowledge Elicitation Tools and develops a simplified subjective assessment template for knowledge elicitation.
- This year: The specific objectives for this year are (1) to complete a "shrink-wrapped" version of the DCODE software with (2) the appropriate audio-visual training tools for how to use and apply the DCODE technology and (3) continued experimental validation of the efficacy of the DCODE approach to individual and group decision making.



DCODE Decision Making Application Areas

- Information Fusion, Analysis and Situation Assessment
- Option Generation/Selection
- Course of Action (COA)
 Recommendations
- Consensus Building

Multiple Options, Multiple Information Items About Each Option





Two Problem Areas Addressed













The most important, high impact items

#1 How do we improve the process of getting to here...

#2 How do we form an aggregate opinion from conflicting inputs.

1000's of possible decision relevant information items....





DCODE Approach



- Improve the ability of both individual and group decision makers to:
 - Abstract
 - Encapsulate
 - Assess
 - Share

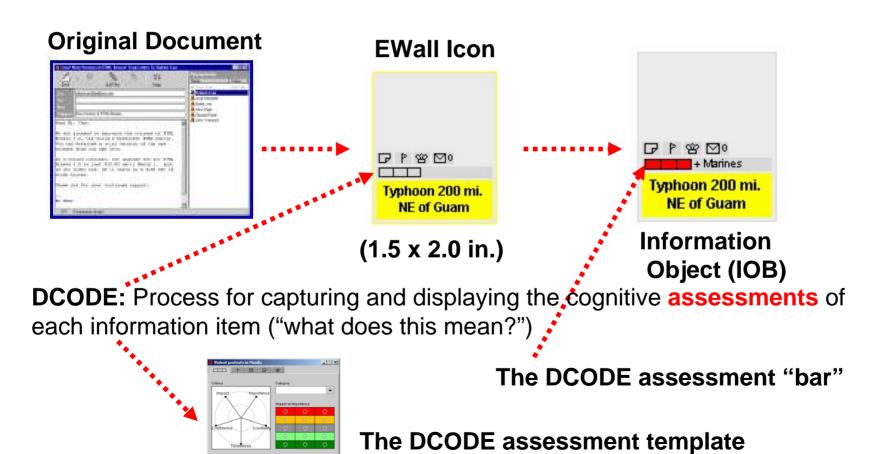
...all decision relevant information items.



EWall & DCODE



•EWall: Architecture for the Abstraction, Encapsulation and Sharing of information.





Cognitive Assessments 4 Major Categories



(1) Which Option? e.g. SEALS, Marines, Army

(2) Impact on Option? (Color)
Very Negative Negative Positive Very Positive









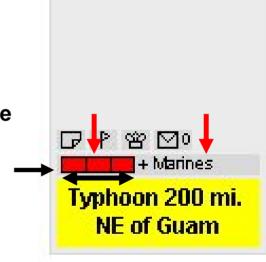
(3) Importance of Information? (Size)
Average High Very High

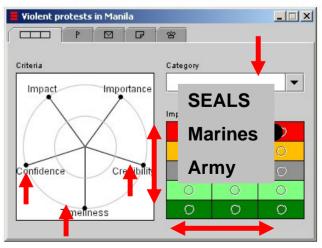






(4) Quality of Information?
Confidence Timeliness Credibility







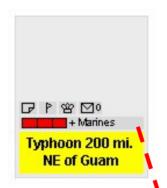
Information Abstraction, Encapsulation and Assessment





"Typhoon has serious and very negative effect on using

the Marines"



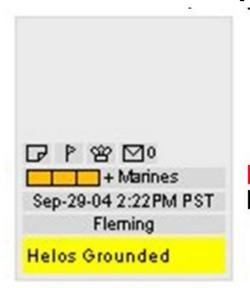
Perform DCODE assmt. on IOBs that are retained for use/sharing in final decision making. (Assessment)





IOB format can be tailored to specific decision tasks

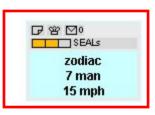




Icon/Text area

Admin
DCODE Bar
Date/Time
Author
Heading



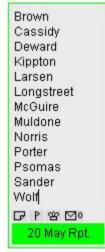




OD B B DO

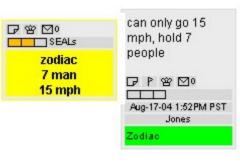
Sell now

Aug-17-04 2:25PM PST Jones













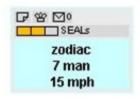


Sample Use of DCODE (AVI)





Why do we Recommend this IOB Configuration?



- Display Real Estate
- Use of Pictures
- Color Conflict



Real Estate

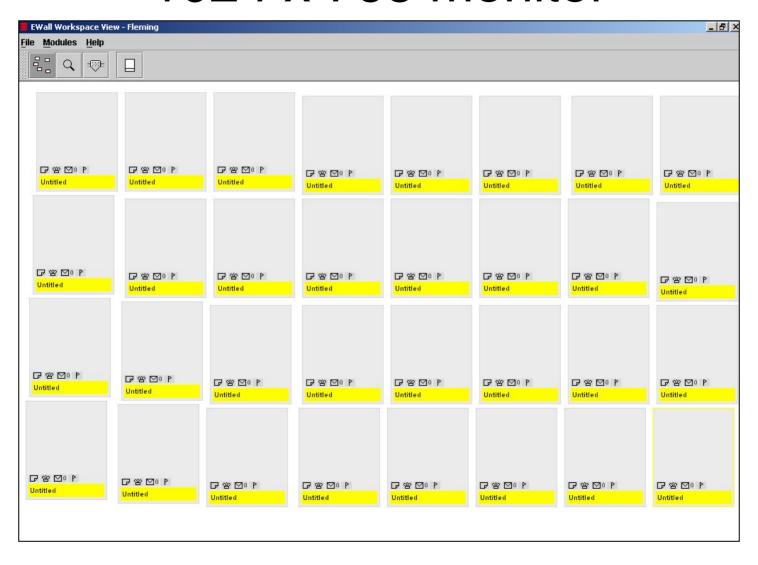


Example: Three possible decision options,
 12 relevant information items for each option. "Big Picture" requires display of
 36 IOBs.



Default Cards, 32 on 1024 x 768 monitor









Reduce size/eliminate picture...



Line 1
Line 2
Line 3

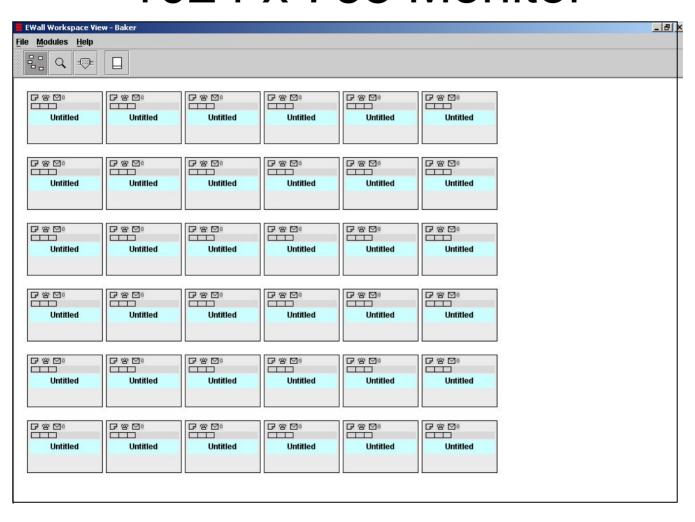
115 x 140 pixels

Eliminate Picture area Go to 115 x 80 pixels



Display of 36 IOBs on 1024 x 768 Monitor

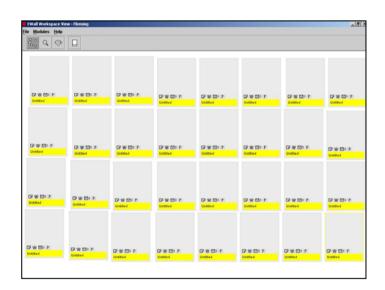




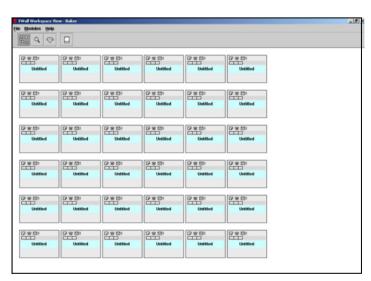




Default Cards vs. Reduced Size



32 Cards



36 Cards







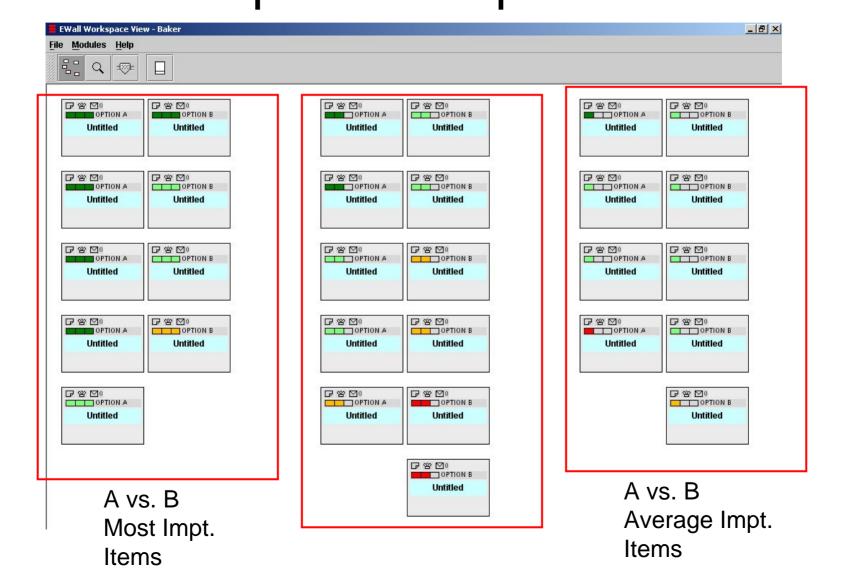


"OK, what is this saying?



Reduced Size Helps Between-





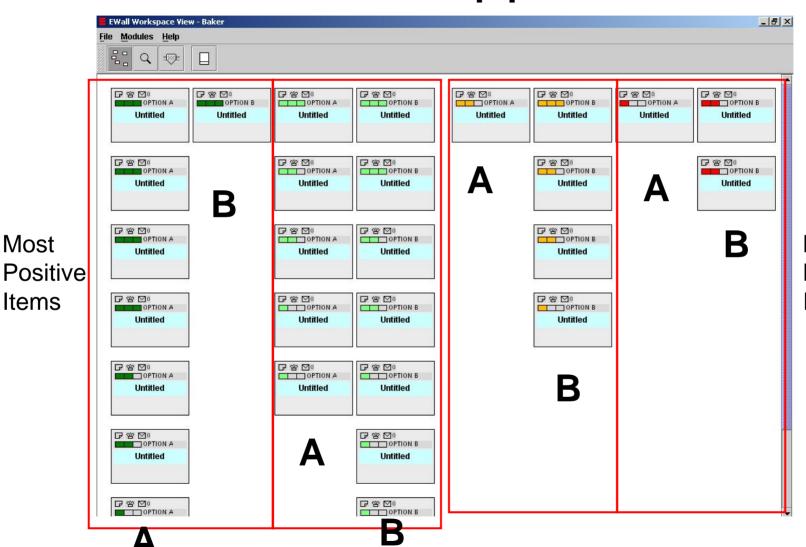


Most

Items



Another Approach



Most Negative **Items**



Eliminate IOB Pictures?



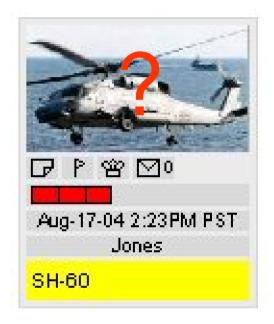
It will take 2 days to repair the Stennis catapult.

The reef is only passable at high tide.

China has detained two Taiwanese fishing vessels.

Typhoon Leoni is veering away from ops area.

Philippine Minister of Defense will run for President.

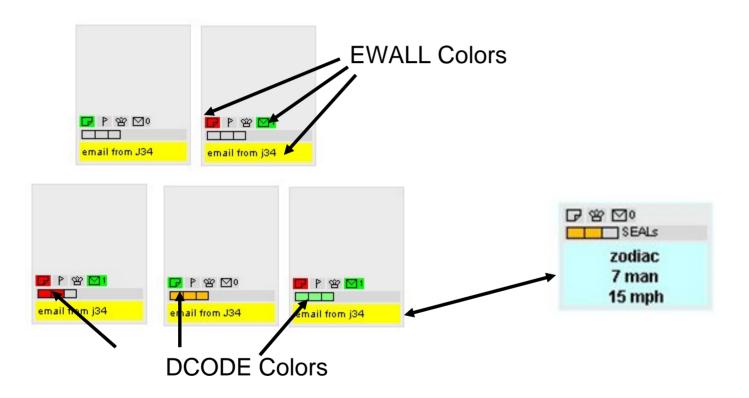


Does the IOB need a picture?
If so, what picture?
Where do we get the picture?
Is it worth the time/lost space?



Color Conflict







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(2) Experiments & Findings



NPG School Experiment 18 Officers



- Display: Text vs. IOBs
- Decision: Positive vs. Negative



Task:



- Volcanic disaster in the Pacific
- Should we recommend Islandia as the refugee site?
 - Sees 30 information items (randomized)
 - 5 decision criteria
 - 6 items per criteria



The Five Decision Criteria



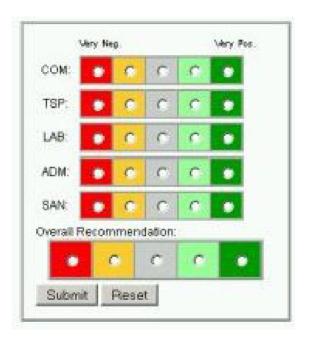
[COMmunications - TSPortation - LABor - ADMistration - SANitation]

- Communications Facilities (COM): Assess the communication facilities that
 are available in Islandia, including land telephone systems, radio, TV, cellular
 phone availability and coverage, etc.
- Transportation Facilities (TSP): Assess the transportation facilities that are available in Islandia, including roads, docks, airports, etc.
- Labor Pool (LAB): Assess the labor pool that would be available to staff the camp in Islandia, including size of the pool, quality of workers, work ethic/tradition, etc.
- Administrative Requirements (ADM): Assess the administrative requirements
 needed to set up the camp in Islandia, including, permits, fees, environmental
 considerations, bureaucratic red tape, graft, bribes, etc.
- Sanitation/Health/Medical conditions (SAN): Assess the sanitation, health and medical conditions expected in Islandia, including drinking water, sewerage disposal, medical facilities, infectious diseases, etc.









5 Criteria Decisions

1 Overall Decision



Text Condition (9 subjects)



1/30

....A cultural tradition in Islandia is that each worker is given a single two month vacation each year, which he can take any time during the year. All the employee has to do is give the employer a one week notice before going on vacation. This has caused unexpected and disrupted work shortages when several employees elect to take the vacation at the same time...



[COMmunications - TSPortation - LABor - ADMistration - SANitation]

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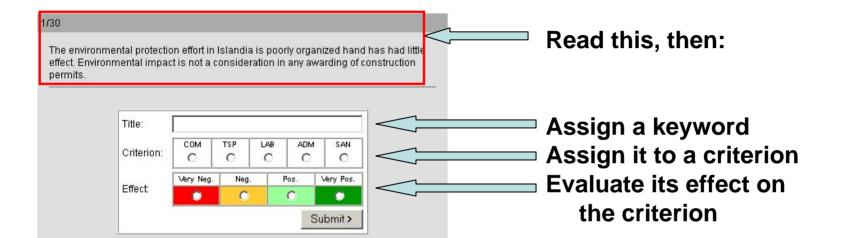
Read this, then assign it to one of the five criteria

(do 30 of these)









[COMmunications - TSPortation - LABor - ADMistration - SANitation]

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 are available in Islandia, including land telephone systems, radio, TV, cellular
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(This experiment uses only the subjective assessment of EFFECT, does not tap Importance, Credibility, etc.)



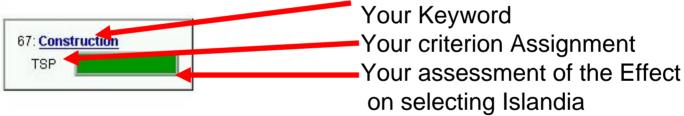
IOBs Explained



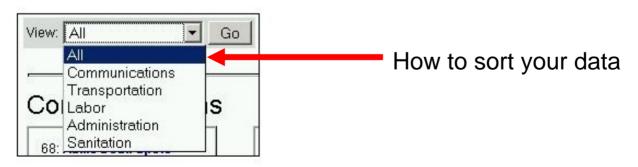
INSTRUCTIONS

You have now evaluated all 30 items. Your last task is to assign rating scores to each criterion, as well as one final overall rating. Your previous scoring of the items has been used to create an "Information Object" (IOB) for each information item.

This IOB includes the information you previously assigned, i.e. the key words, the criterion and the rating. The key words are hyperlinked to the original text item so that you can call it up for review by simply clicking on the key words. When you do this, the text will appear in a window to the right of the display. The effect you selected for each item is represented by the color bar in the IOB. A sample IOB is presented below:



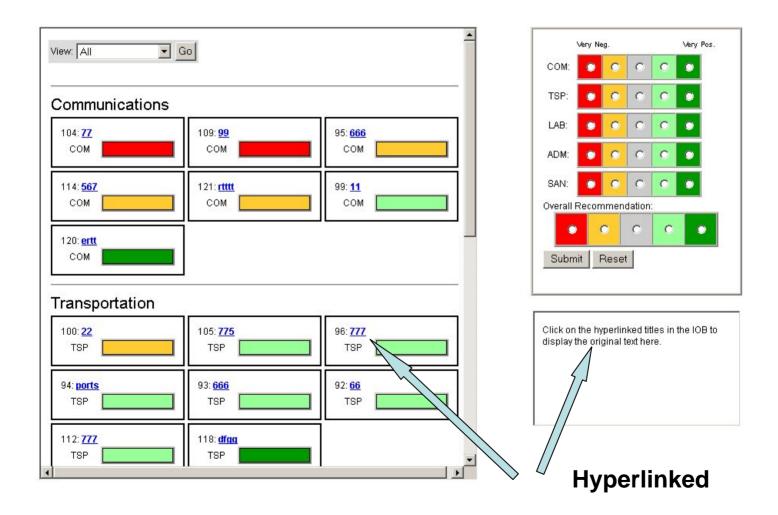
The IOB items are available to you for review using a drop-down sorting menu that can present all the IOBs associated with all the criterion or you can elect to see only the IOBs associated with one individual criterion.







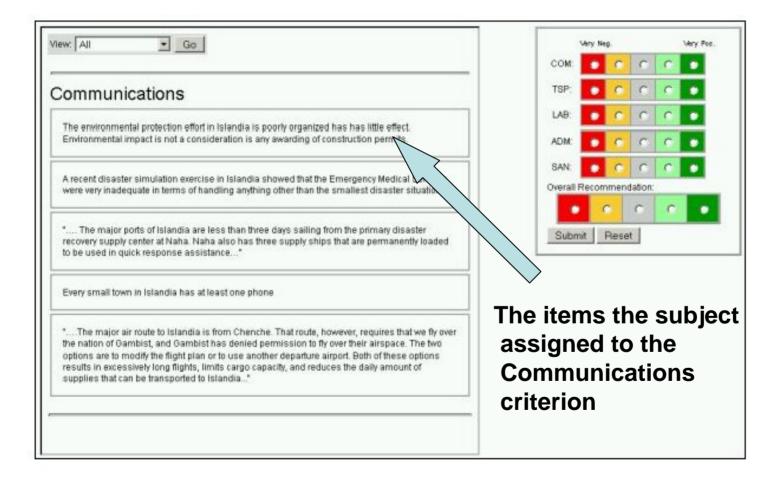






Decision Display: Text











One Last Request: Please select one of the options below in terms of how useful the IOBs were in making your scoring decision (this would be as versus just seeing the text listing of the items you assigned to each criterion)

a lot	Helped a	Helped Somewhat	No Effect	Somewhat distracting
	0	0	C	0
	C Sub		C	0



Positive vs Negative



1/2 of Subjects should make a decision that is Positive:

1/2 of Subjects should make a decision that is Negative:

3 of 5 criteria are Positive

3 of 5 criteria are Negative

Positive Criterion: 4 of the 6 statements are positive Negative Criterion: 4 of the 6 statements are negative



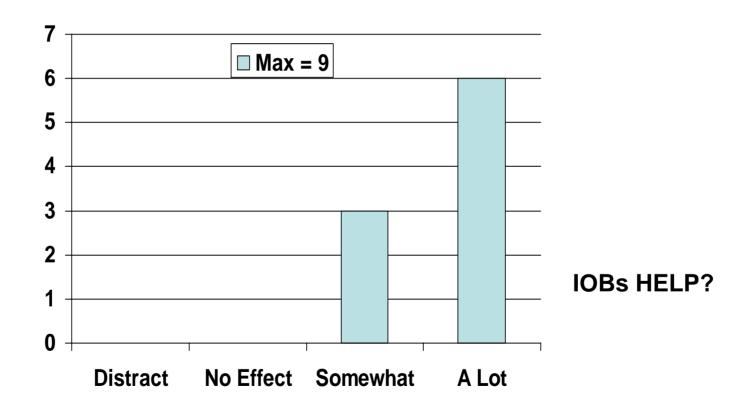


RESULTS





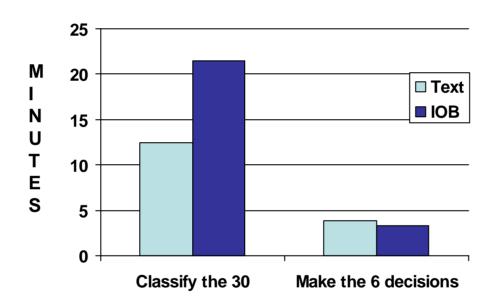










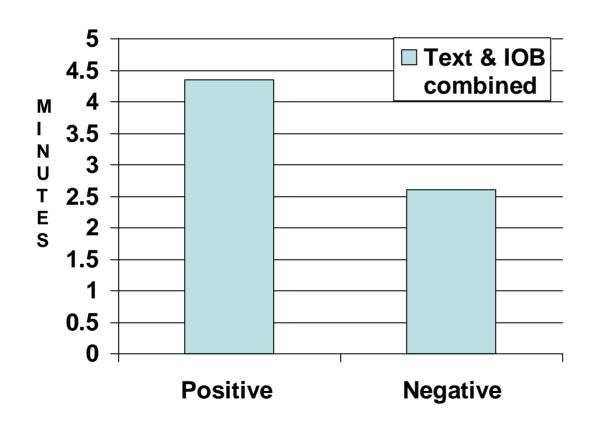


IOB subjects took an average 18 seconds longer per item to enter keyword and make evaluation





TIME TO MAKE THE 6 DECISIONS

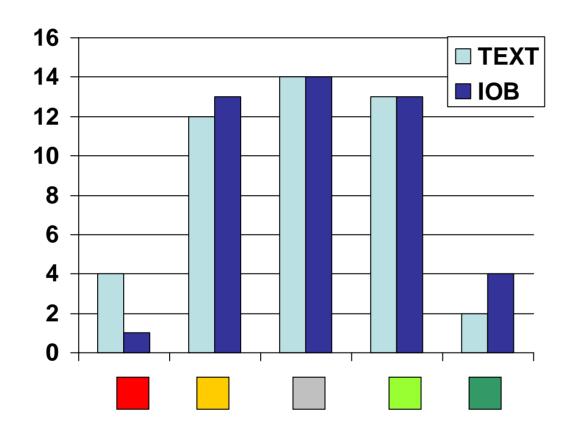


Significant Difference











Errors:

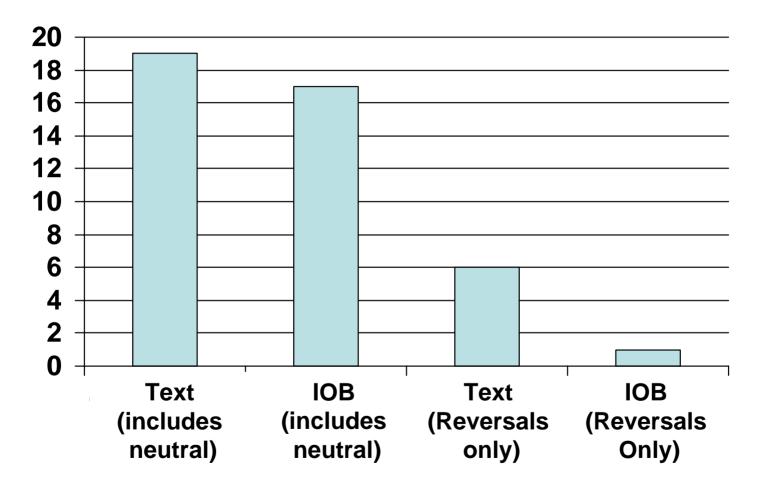


- All criteria should have been scored as either positive or negative
 - Assignment of a neutral rating is scored as an error
 - For the IOB subjects, whether the correct decision was Positive or Negative was based on the <u>subject's</u> ratings
 - For the Text subjects, correct decision was based on experimenter's classification
 - Reversal Error (most serious): Positive group of information given a Negative rank (or vice versa)





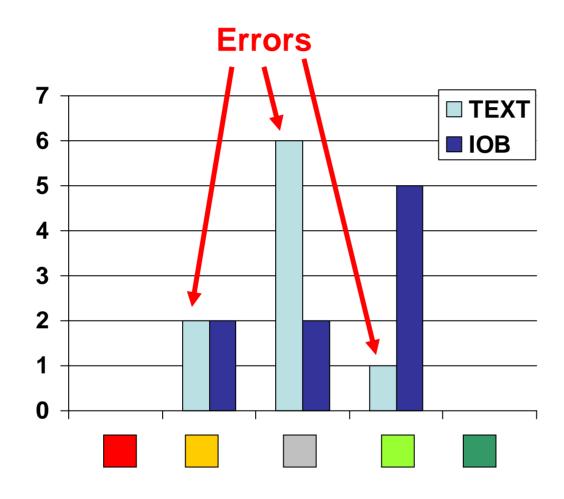








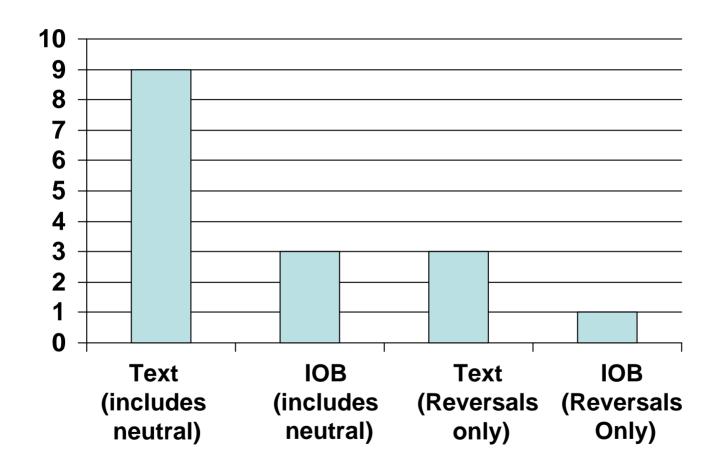














Summary of Results





Very Res.

COM: C C C C

TSP: C C C C

ADM: C C C C

SAN: C C C C

Overall Recommendation:

Submit Reset

Six of the 9 IOB subjects made the correct assignment.

None of the 9 Text subjects made the correct assignment.

6/9 of the IOB subjects showed unwillingness to commit to a decision. Other 3 made reversal errors.



Summary



- No members of the Text group made a correct Overall decision:
 - Preferred the neutral rating
- Six of the nine IOB group made a correct Overall decision
- Subjects took longer to make a decision when preponderance of data was Positive
- IOB subjects gave favorable ratings to use of IOBs in decision making





The use of Information Objects (IOBs) and DCODE in decision making (Experiment at Colorado State 4/04)



Task



- Select the best company to invest in out of a group of three.*
- Read a report about each company
 - Profits, work force, CEO, new markets, etc.
- Create IOBs about each company
 - Instructed on how to create and use IOBs and the DCODE color bar options.
 - Creation, layout, contents, & DCODE options totally under subjects control.
- Make a final Rank Ordering of the 3 companies.
- \$ incentive for best performance

^{*} A published, standardized task, correct answer based on consensus of SMEs



Overview



- 36 subjects participated
 - 14 Females
 - -22 Males
- 15 of the subjects used the DCODE color bar option







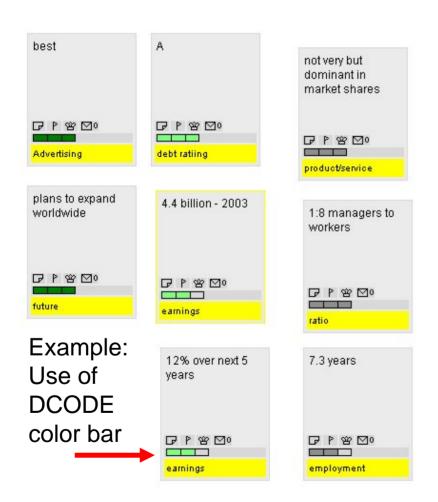
	Males	Females	
DCODE Option available	13 (13)	8 (2)	21 (15)
No DCODE Option	9	6	15
	22	14	36

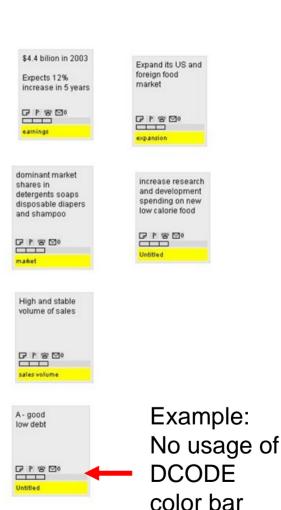
(XX) = # of subjects that actually used DCODE color Bar



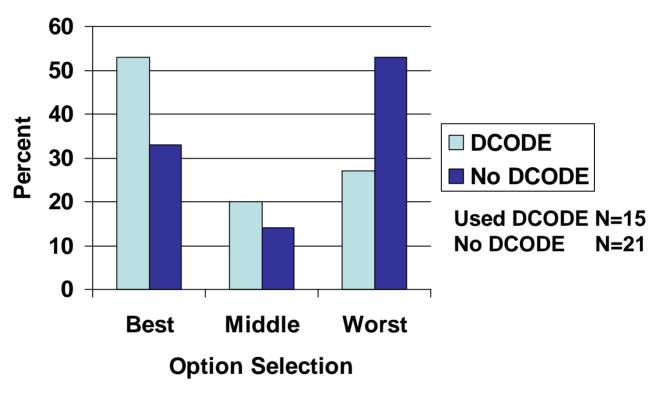
DCODE/No DCODE







Use of DCODE: Decision Performance (M & F combined)



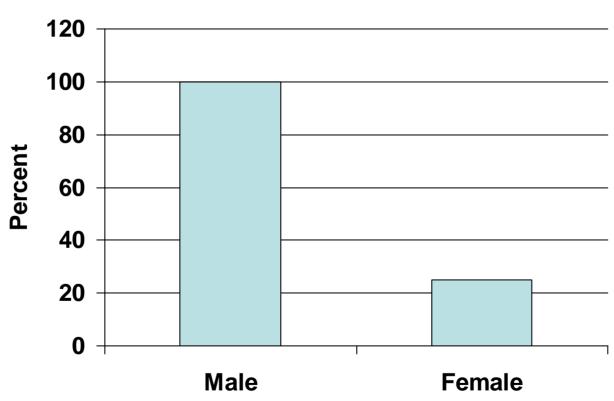
54% of DCODE users ranked Best choice as #1 33% of non-DCODE users ranked Best choice as #1

28% of DCODE users ranked Worst choice as #1 54% of non-DCODE users ranked Worst choice as #1



Male vs. Female Use of DCODE color bar



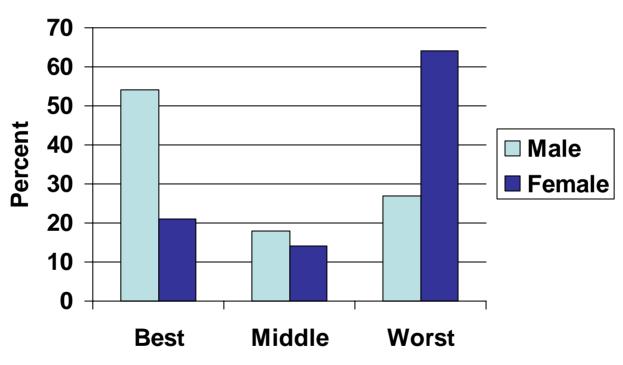


Male: N=13 13/13 100% Female: N=8 2/8 25%



Decision Quality Male vs. Female



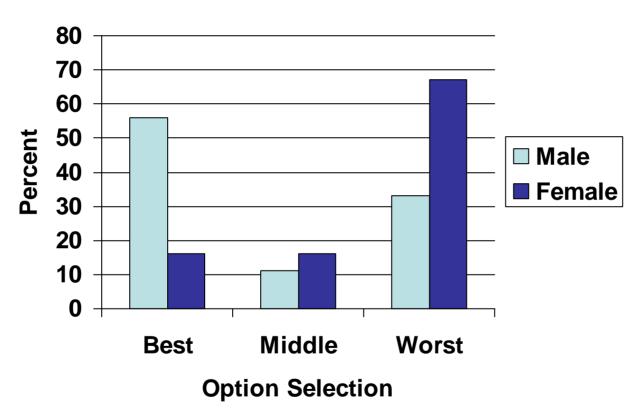


Male: N=22 Female: N=14 **Option Selection**



Male vs. Female (no DCODE)





Male: Rankings of the 9 males who did not use DCODE

Female: Rankings of the 12 Females who did not use DCODE



SUMMARY



- People made better selections using the DCODE option
- People were better at avoiding the worst option when they used DCODE
- Females were less likely to use DCODE
- Comparing performance of males vs. females who did <u>not use DCODE</u>, females performed more poorly than males.



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(3) Expected Final Product

- Overall "concept of operations" of how to best use EWall-DCODE for selected decision making paradigms/tasks.
- Set of AVIs on how to create, sort and share IOBs.
- High-level marketing brief on application of DCODE to military/intelligence decision making.



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(4) Demos/Validations of Technology



Cortex

Third Fleet Flag Briefing and Collaboration Facility (on Point Loma). Four Major packages:

- 1. Display Space Management (DSM)
- 2. Information Services ("KWEB")
- 3. Geospatial Collaboration Service (GCS)
- 4. Geospatial Replication Service (GRS)





- Both an innovation and AND an operational command center.
- Expect to introduce DCODE technology into Cortex on a test basis in 2005

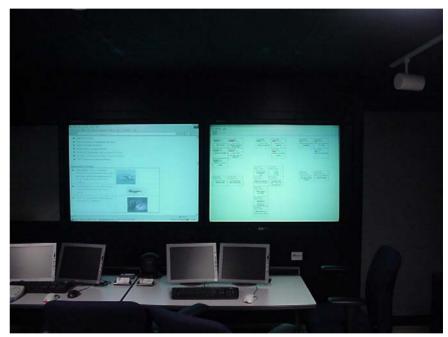




Composeable FORCEnet Human Systems Integration Laboratory (CFnHSI)



Located at SPAWAR Systems Center, San Diego, operated by SPAWAR Systems Command. EWall/DCODE already installed in facility, which is well designed for both individual and group testing of DCODE usability concepts.





Instructional AVIs





The good news: EWALL has many options (very flexible). The bad news: EWALL has many options (a lot to learn).



DCODE will produce of number of AVI tutorial aids to simplify the learning process.

🛐 Creating IOBs

🚺 DCODE Template

🛐 Sorting IOBs

Sharing IOBs

Consensus

Other Applications



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(5) Software Development and Other Supporting Tools

- Software development and configuration management is controlled by MIT.
- DCODE project has supplied software design recommendations for use and display of DCODE assessment template.
- DCODE has created a variety of AVI instructional videos introducing the DCODE concepts.



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(6) Recent & Planned Publications Systems Center (San Diego

• Fleming, R. & Cowen, M. Improving Individual and Team Decisions Using Iconic Abstractions of Subjective Knowledge. Paper presented at Command and Control Research Technology Symposium (CCRTS), San Diego, CA, June 2004.

• Cowen, M. & Fleming R. A Knowledge Management Tool for Collaboration: Subjective Tagging of Information." Paper presented at the 2004 TTCP HUM-TP9 Human Systems Integration Workshop, Ottawa, Canada May 2004.



Organization:



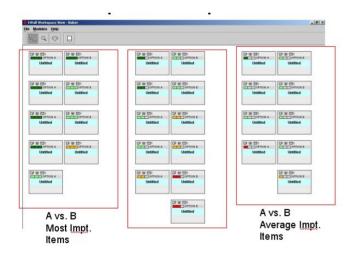
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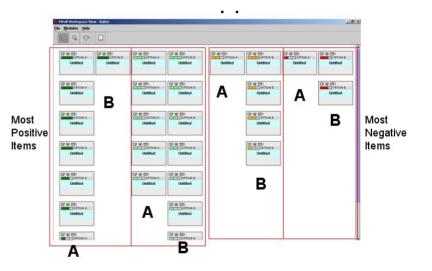






 Critical Missing Feature to DCODE is the Absence of <u>Automated</u> Sorting Algorithms.





These were moved and sorted by hand.....





Possible Sorting Interface

Wide variety of possibilities.

Options
Importance
Impact

<u>OPTIONS</u>	<u>IMPORTANCE</u>	<u>IMPACT</u>
O A O B	0	0
O C O ALL		



Compare Option A vs. Option B on Importance

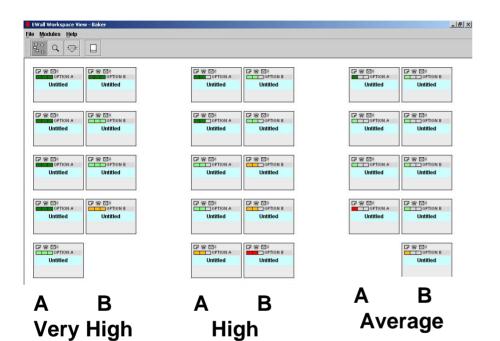


<u>OPTIONS</u>	IMPORTANCE	<u>IMPACT</u>
• A	•	0
● B ○ C		
O ALL		





A vs B on Importance Parameter



O 1	2 🔘	3 🔘
O 4	5 🔾	6 🔘
○ 7	8 🔘	9 🔘
O 10	11 🔾	12 🔘
O 13	140	15 O

Option A	Option B	Option A	Option B	Option A	Option B
All 15s	All 15s	All 14s	All 14s	All 13s	All 13s
All 12s	All 12s	All 11s	All 11s	All 10s	All 10s
All 6s	All 6s	All 5s	All 5s	All 4s	All 4s
All 3s	All 3s	All 2s	All 2s	All 1s	All 1s



SPAWAR Systems Center Son Diagra

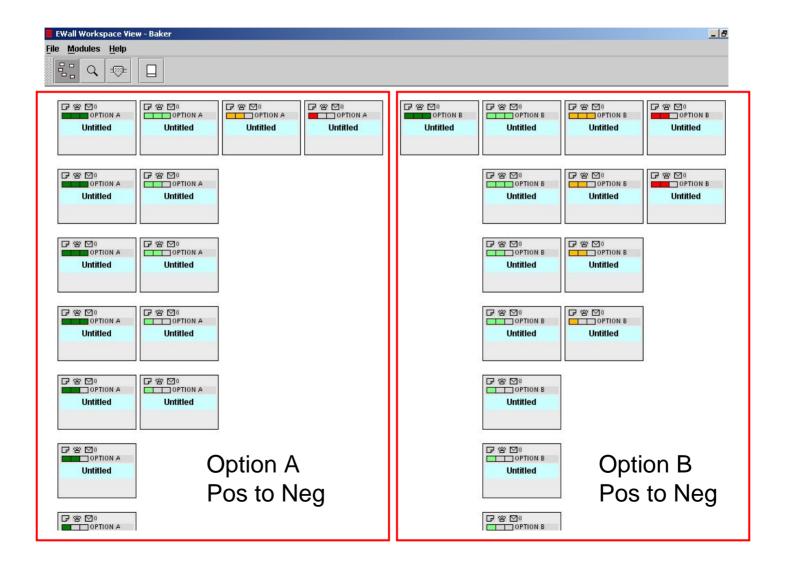
Compare Option A vs. Option B on Impact

<u>OPTIONS</u>	<u>IMPORTANCE</u>	<u>IMPACT</u>
● A ● B	0	•
O C O ALL		



Display







Summary



- EWall is a highly efficient approach to the abstraction, encapsulation and sharing of information.
- DCODE brings the critical element of information assessment to the decision making process.
- This added element significantly enhances the ability of an individual to form an overall composite opinion as well as for a group to reach consensus on option recommendation.



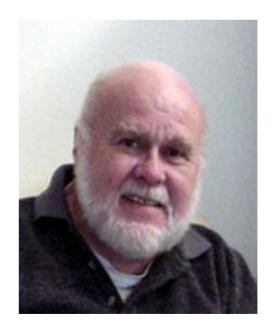
The Last.....



- Slide of this brief
- Brief of this Conference
- Brief of my Career



Jan 20, 1955



Jan 20, 2005